



REACH...

Respect parent roles and their diversity

Engagement, not just involvement

All families want their children to be successful so *Ask* what they need

Curriculum of the home

Help at home with knowledge and skills

Strategy Name: TIPS (Teachers Involving Parents in Schoolwork)

Summary of Strategy: TIPS Interactive Homework process was designed by teachers and researchers at Johns Hopkins University. TIPS interactive homework assignments involve students in demonstrating or discussing homework with a family member. Parents are asked to monitor, interact, and support their children. They are not required to read or direct the students' assignments because that is the students' responsibility. All TIPS homework assignments have a section for home-to-school communication where parents indicate their interaction with the student about the homework. A quasi-experimental study was conducted on whether family involvement in homework in the middle grades benefits students. Results suggest that well-designed interactive homework assignments positively engage parents and promote student achievement. Nearly all parents involved in the TIPS program said TIPS provided them with information about what their children were studying in school.

REACH Links: *Engagement, not just involvement* and *Help at home with knowledge and skills*.

Scientifically Based Research Level: Level 4 Strong Evidence

Website Links: <http://www.csos.jhu.edu/p2000/tips/TIPSmain.htm>

Target Audience of Strategy: All parents of Kindergarten through 8th grade students

Training and Follow-up Support for Implementation: TIPS can be designed for one or more subject areas on any grade level. A team of teachers must outline the learning objectives for the year and identify weekly or bi-weekly skills for student-parent interaction. Then they select, adapt or design a TIPS learning activity. Teachers must orient students and parents to the TIPS activities and then evaluate progress throughout the year. Parents and students are surveyed frequently to monitor their perceptions of family involvement in their homework assignments, their perceptions of family involvement in homework in other subjects, and their general opinions about homework and school.

Role of the Educator in Implementation: TIPS activities must be assigned on a regular schedule (e.g., once a week, every other week) to help students share their work, and to keep families aware of what their children are learning in class. Surveys must be conducted with students and families and evaluated frequently.